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TOR: 041518Z MAY 88

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DE RUFHTV #6589 1251512  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
O 041511Z MAY 88  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4161  
INFO RUEHDC/USDOC WASHDC  
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7476  
BT  
UNCLAS TEL AVIV 06589

USIA

FOR P/FW:HALE (INFO:NEA:BULLOCK -- PHONE HALE)  
USDOC FOR 4520/IEP/ANESA/ONE/IIC/LOUSTANAU  
STATE FOR NEA/ECON

E.O. 12356: N/A

SUBJECT: VISIT BY ISRAELI CORRESPONDENT

1. YAAKOV BEN AMIR, CORRESPONDENT FOR ISRAEL HEBREW DAILY "GLOBS," WILL BE IN WASHINGTON MONDAY, MAY 23, AND ASKS FOR INTERVIEWS WITH THREE LEADING PERSONAGES: FEDERAL RESERVE CHAIRMAN ALAN GREENSPAN, SECRETARY OF COMMERCE C. WILLIAM VERITY JR. AND THE CHAIRMAN OF EITHER THE SENATE OR HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE, SEN. JOHN C. STENNIS OR REP. JAMIE L. WHITTEN.
2. "GLOBS" IS RESPECTED DAILY SPECIALIZING IN ECONOMICS AND FINANCIAL NEWS; ITS READERS INCLUDE ALMOST ALL ISRAEL'S BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL LEADERS. "GLOBS" RECENTLY HIRED A NEW EDITOR AND IS EMBARKING ON A PROGRAM TO EXPAND ITS COVERAGE TO INCLUDE MORE GENERAL NEWS, ALONG THE LINES OF THE "WALL STREET JOURNAL." WE ARE IN FREQUENT CONTACT WITH BEN AMIR, WHO SPECIALIZES IN ISRAEL'S FOREIGN COMMERCIAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS AND IMPLICATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS FOR ISRAEL (THE LATTER SUBJECT INCLUDES U.S. PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ASSISTANCE FOR ISRAEL).
3. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE PERSONS WITH WHOM BEN AMIR SEEKS INTERVIEWS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE. IF SO, WE URGE P/FW TO SEEK INTERVIEWS -- PREFERABLY ON-THE-RECORD -- WITH APPROPRIATE SUBORDINATES.
4. AT USDOC WE RECOMMEND THAT USDOC DEPUTY ASST (FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY) SEC JAMES B. KELLY III (202-377-4925) SEE BEN AMIR. (HE ALSO SHOULD SEE ISRAELI DESK OFFICER CHERIE LOUSTAUNAU, 202-377-4652.)
5. IF NEITHER CHAIRMEN ON CAPITOL HILL IS AVAILABLE, BEN AMIR SHOULD INTERVIEW ("BACKGROUND" BASIS IS ACCEPTABLE) A SENIOR STAFFER, RATHER THAN TALK WITH A LOWER-RANKING MEMBER. WHOMEVER BEN AMIR SEES SHOULD BE ABLE TO RELATE THE OVER-ALL USG BUDGETARY PICTURE TO IMMEDIATE AND FUTURE PROSPECTS FOR AID (ECONOMIC AND SECURITY) TO ISRAEL.

*DAC/HAC*  
*Sen Stennis*  
*Rep Whitten*

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C. WE DEFER TO WASHINGTON'S JUDGMENT REGARDING  
ALTERNATIVE TO GREENSPAN, IF NEEDED.

7. BEN AMIR LEAVES ISRAEL ON MAY 13. HE CAN BE REACHED  
MAY 14-18 AT THE FAIRMONT HOTEL IN DALLAS (1717 N.  
AKARD ST., 214-720-2020). HE WILL BE TRAVELING IN THE  
WESTERN U.S. MAY 18-23. HE PLANS TO ARRIVE IN  
WASHINGTON LATE SUNDAY, MAY 22, STAYING AT EITHER THE  
CAPITOL HYATT OR WASHINGTON SHERATON HOTEL, AND DEPART  
FOR ISRAEL ON TUESDAY, MAY 24.

8. IF INFORMATION ABOUT APPOINTMENTS CANNOT BE CABLED  
HERE BEFORE MAY 13, PLEASE CONTACT BEN AMIR IN DALLAS.  
AS BACKUP, WE ARE GIVING HIM HALE'S PHONE NUMBER AT  
FOREIGN PRESS CENTER IN WASHINGTON. LANE  
END OF MESSAGE

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